



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/664,376	09/17/2003	Vaikko P. Allen II	VOR-002	4551

35557 7590 12/28/2004

CHRIS A. CASEIRO  
VERRILL AND DANA, LLP  
ONE PORTLAND SQUARE  
PORTLAND, ME 04112-0586

EXAMINER
----------

PRINCE, FRED G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1724

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/664,376	ALLEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Fred Prince	1724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☐ The amendment filed on 04 November 2004 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☐ entered.

b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☒ entered in part. See explanation below.

*Paragraphs [003] and [038] are not entered as they add new matter to the instant application. Per paragraph [003], "dissolved nutrients or metals" is broader in scope than "fertilizer" since fertilizer may contain dissolved nutrients or metals but a substance containing dissolved nutrients or metals is not necessarily a fertilizer. Per paragraph [038], the original specification and drawings do not show a weir that is substantially equal in height to the baffle port. The weir disclosed and illustrated clearly exceeds the height of the baffle port.*

*Fred Prince*  
Fred Prince

Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1724

12/23/04